

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace any/all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application, wherein additions are shown in underlined text and deletions are shown in strike-out text:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual suffering from peripheral neuropathy, the method comprising the step of administering to the individual a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a composition comprising a compound having a pharmacological selectivity of serotonin ( $K_i$ )/norepinephrine ( $K_i$ ) of at least about 5000~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.1 to about 10 mg/day.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 8 mg/day.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 5 mg/day.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 2.5 mg/day.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.9 mg/day.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.8 mg/day.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said ~~composition~~ optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.75 mg/day.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered as a composition and said composition is administered orally, topically, parenterally, transdermally, rectally, or vaginally.

Claim 10 (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said composition is orally administered, and further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier selected from the group consisting of a binder, diluent, lubricant, disintegrating agent, effervescing agent, dyestuff, sweetener, wetting agent, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 11 (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the oral administration is by a sachet, capsule, tablet, or aerosol spray.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein said composition is parenterally administered subcutaneously, ~~intraveously~~ intravenously, or intramuscularly.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~13~~ 1 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a methanesulfonate salt.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~13~~ 1 wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 90 wt.% of (S,S) reboxetine, and less than about 10 wt.% of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of ~~the (S,S) and (R,R)~~ reboxetine present.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 97 wt.% of (S,S) reboxetine and less than about 3 wt.% of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of ~~the (S,S) and (R,R)~~ reboxetine present.

**Claim 17 (Currently Amended)** The method of claim 16 wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 99 wt.% of (S,S) reboxetine and less than about 1 wt.% of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of the (S,S) and (R,R) reboxetine present.

**Claims 18-38 (Cancelled).**

**Claim 39 (Currently Amended)** A method of treating an individual suffering from peripheral neuropathy while diminishing adverse side effects, the method comprising the step of administering to the individual a total dose of about 0.1 to about 10 mg/day of an optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, ~~to an individual, said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine being substantially free of (R,R) reboxetine.~~

**Claim 40 (Currently Amended)** The method of claim 39 wherein said adverse side effects comprise dizziness, insomnia, lightheadedness, changes in blood pressure, sweating, gastrointestinal disturbances, sexual dysfunction in males, anticholinergic-like effects, ~~and~~ or side effects with drug-drug interactions.

**Claims 41-53 (Canceled).**

**Claim 54 (New)** The method of claim 39, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 8 mg/day.

**Claim 55 (New)** The method of claim 54, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 5 mg/day.

**Claim 56 (New)** The method of claim 55, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 2.5 mg/day.

Claim 57 (New) The method of claim 56, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.9 mg/day.

Claim 58 (New) The method of claim 57, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.8 mg/day.

Claim 59 (New) The method of claim 58, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in an amount of about 0.5 to about 0.75 mg/day.

Claim 60 (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said optically pure (S,S) reboxetine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered as a composition and said composition is administered orally, topically, parenterally, transdermally, rectally, or vaginally.

Claim 61 (New) The method of claim 60, wherein said composition is orally administered, and further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier selected from the group consisting of a binder, diluent, lubricant, disintegrating agent, effervescent agent, dyestuff, sweetener, wetting agent, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 62 (New) The method of claim 61, wherein the oral administration is by a sachet, capsule, tablet, or aerosol spray.

Claim 63 (New) The method of claim 60, wherein said composition is parenterally administered subcutaneously, intravenously, or intramuscularly.

Claim 64 (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a methanesulfonate salt.

Claim 65 (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 90 wt. % of (S,S) reboxetine, and less than about 10 wt. % of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of reboxetine present.

Claim 66 (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 97 wt. % of (S,S) reboxetine and less than about 3 wt. % of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of reboxetine present.

Claim 67 (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the optically pure (S,S) reboxetine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprises at least about 99 wt. % of (S,S) reboxetine and less than about 1 wt. % of (R,R) reboxetine, based on the total weight of reboxetine present.